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Title : Sale of contaminated, adulterated and sub-standard food in railway canteens and licensed railway stalls at Bhusawal, Maharashtra.

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL (AMRAVATI): Sir, I stand here to raise a very important matter of urgent public importance regarding contaminated, adulterated and substandard food being sold at Bhusawal station in Maharasthra.

Bhusawal station is the biggest junction station in the country where trains going to Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai are also passing. Accidentally, I happened to be there during last week to attend one function being the President of the Rail Kamgar Sena. There, I heard a large number of complaints from various passengers that adulterated food was being sold there, affecting the health of the passengers. Immediately, I contacted the DRM, who was out of station, over phone. As per his advice, I contacted ADRM and took him to the platform. I found that there were 23 stalls owned by one person or a group of persons. I also found that for the last so many years, same contractors and stall owners have been working at that station and various other stations.

Then, I noticed that the foodstuffs were all duplicate ones being sold there. The cakes, breads, milk bottles and water bottles were all duplicate ones. This is in violation of the norms of the Railways.

Secondly, I found that it was not allowed to sell Potato *Bada* and *Kachauri* there whereas the same could be prepared there in the godown itself. It would give lakhs of rupees of profit to the Railways. But the same space is being used by the contractors. It shows that there is some connivance with the officers as also with the Railway police.

When I visited that place, I called the Drug and Food Officers over there and asked them to take the samples. I made the *panchnama.* Meanwhile, some of the gundas, who are being kept by those stall owners, came there and threatened me. But the police was doing nothing over there. Afterwards, we took the sample and sent it for testing

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have made your point. There is no need of telling the story.

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL : Right, Sir.

But it is a very serious matter. I would, therefore, request the Government that the Railway authority should take cognizance of it. Some action is required to be taken.